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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS  
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ON PETITION

In re Application of  
Robert W. Sams, et al.  
Application No. 08/996,249  
Filed: December 22, 1997  
Attorney Docket No. 196-0216

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed May 4, 2001, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.113 in a timely manner to the final Office action mailed July 12, 2000, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on October 13, 2000.

37 CFR 1.137(b)(3) requires a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. If the statement contained in the instant petition varies from the language required by 37 CFR 1.137(b)(3), the statement contained in the instant petition is being construed as the statement required by 37 CFR 1.137(b)(3) and petitioner must notify the Office if this is **not** a correct interpretation of the statement contained in the instant petition.

The above-identified application is being revived solely for purposes of continuity with a continued prosecution application (CPA) filed on May 4, 2001.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Retta Williams at (703) 306-5594 or in her absence, Marianne Morgan at (703) 306-3475.

The application file is being forwarded to Technology Center 3600 for further processing.

*Retta Williams*

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Petitions Examiner  
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*Marianne Morgan*

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